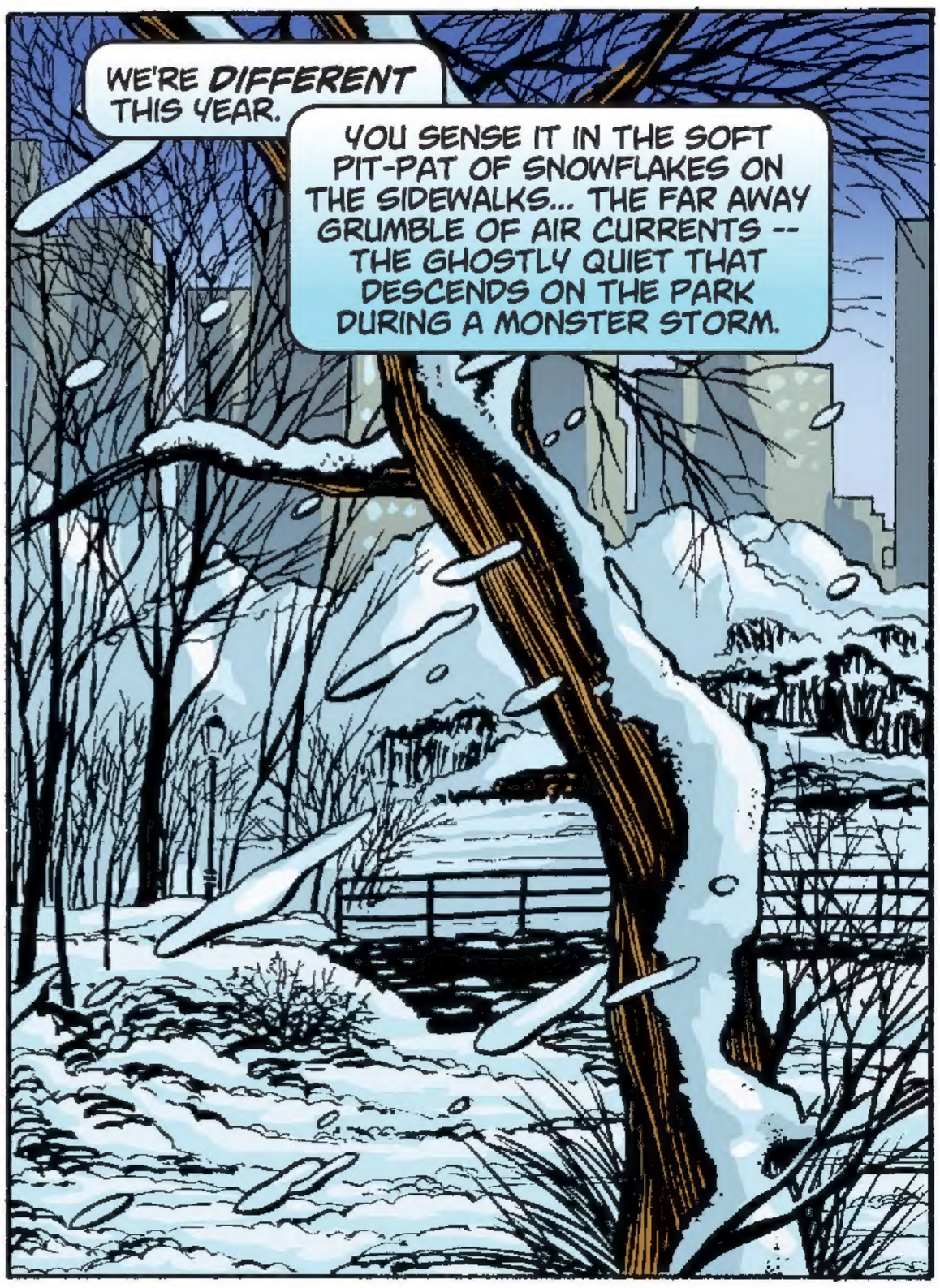
MARVEL COMICS

PETER PARKER™ SPIDER-MAN®

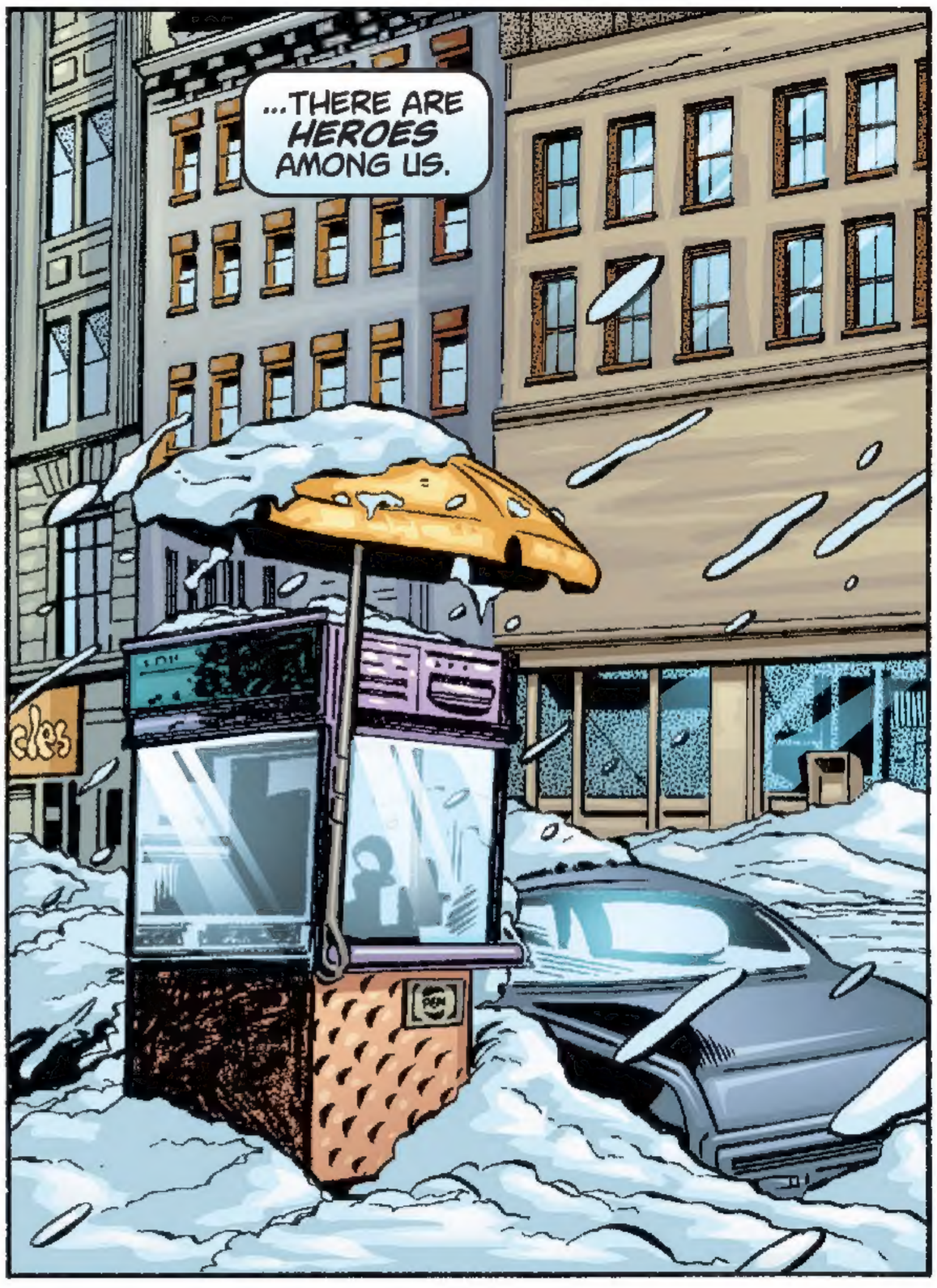
MARVEL PG 37 135

JENKINS
BUCKINGHAM
FAUCHER

RAMOS/FAUCHER
delgado


WE'RE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR.
YOU SENSE IT IN THE SOFT PIT-PAT OF SNOWFLAKES ON THE SIDEWALKS... THE FAR AWAY GRUMBLE OF AIR CURRENTS -- THE GHOSTLY QUIET THAT DESCENDS ON THE PARK DURING A MONSTER STORM.

DOWN IN MANHATTAN, IT'S LIKE A FORGOTTEN WORLD... THE CITY'S ALMOST DESERTED, SMOTHERED IN A BLANKET OF FROZEN TIME.
WE REFLECT IN RELATIVE CALM, REASSURED THAT WHILE WE WAIT OUT THE STORM...
RADIO CITY
RADIO CITY



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MAYBE -- JUST MAYBE -- WE ***UNDERSTAND*** NOW: A HERO DOESN'T RUN MINDLESSLY INTO BATTLE, CHOMPING ON A STOGIE, MACHINE GUNS BLAZING.

A HERO RUNS INTO A BURNING BUILDING, THINKING OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS AT HOME.

WHILE OTHERS MAKE NOISE, A HERO TOILS ***QUIETLY.***

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THERE ARE HEROES AT WORK IN THE CITY EVEN ON A DAY LIKE ***TODAY.***

NOT FORGETTING, OF COURSE, THOSE OF US WHO'RE MERELY CLINICALLY ***INSANE...***

SPLASH

AH, YES... YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD ICE-STATUE. AND WHAT COULD BE SO VITALLY ***IMPORTANT*** AS TO DRAG YOURS TRULY UP TO THE TOP OF THE EMPIRE STATE ON A FINE, BRISK AFTERNOON SUCH AS THIS?

IF YOU ASK ME, IT'S A ***TEST.***

I'M TRYING TO TEST THE LIMITS OF BOTH HUMAN ENDEAVOR AND GENERAL STUPIDITY. I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THE RESULTS EVER SINCE MY ALARM CLOCK WENT OFF THIS MORNING...

GOOD MORNING, NEW YORK, AN' A "HOO HOO HOO" TO ***YOU!*** IT'S CURRENTLY 6 AM ON WJNX, AND -- ***BANG***

IN NINE MINUTES, LOCAL NEWS AND WEATHER, BUT FIRST, HERE'S AN OLDIE BY LYNRD SKYNRD -- ***BANG***

YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO FREEBIRD -- ***BANG***

COMING UP ON TWENTY-SEVEN MINUTES PAST THE HOUR -- ***BANG.***

6:27

USUALLY FOR ME, A MESSAGE FROM THE GODS BEGINS WITH THE ***FLU,*** OR SOMETHING. A SCHOOL DAY WITH NO LESSON PLANS PREPARED ADDS NICELY TO THE MIX.

...RECORD LOWS ACROSS MOST OF THE COUNTRY. MOTHER NATURE'S REALLY SOCKIN' IT TO US, AND THAT'S THE BIG NEWS HERE ON YOUR NUMBER ONE NEWS AND WEATHER STATION -- WJNX, NEW YORK!

SHNORT

HA HA! THAT'S RIGHT, TRENT... MAKING THIS OFFICIALLY THE COLDEST DAY ON RECORD HERE IN THE CITY, WITH MORE TO COME OVER THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO!

SO, WITH ALL SCHOOLS AND MOST BUSINESSES CLOSED, OUR ADVICE IS TO WRAP UP WARM, TURN ON THE FIRE AND STAY INSIDE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN FIVE MILLION DOLLARS --

OH, AND A RINGING ***PHONE...*** THAT'S ALWAYS A DEAD GIVEAWAY --

BRRING

HELLO, DEAR -- IT'S YOUR AUNT MAY. I HEARD ABOUT THE SCHOOL CANCELATIONS AND I WAS HOPING YOU'D COME AND DIG YOUR POOR OLD AUNT OUT OF A SNOWDRIFT.

UH, I DUNNO ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW, AUNT MAY. I THINK I HAVE A ***COLD*** COMING ON --

OH, YOU POOR THING. SHALL I MAKE SOME NICE CHICKEN SOUP FOR WHEN YOU GET HERE?

CHICKEN SOUP? HAVE YOU SEEN THE ***WEATHER*** OUTSIDE? THERE'S ABOUT FIFTY FEET OF SNOW PILED UP --

YES, THAT'S RIGHT, DEAR -- IT'S ON MY DRIVEWAY. YOU'LL BE HERE SOON, WON'T YOU?

YEAH. NO, I MEAN... C'MON, AUNT MAY -- I LIVE ***MILES*** AWAY. THEY'VE CANCELED THE SUBWAY --

OH, I'M ***SURE*** YOU CAN FIND A WAY, PETER. THE FRESH AIR WILL DO YOU GOOD.

YOU'VE LOST YOUR ***MARBLES*** AGAIN, HAVEN'T YOU?

YES, THAT'S RIGHT. I'LL SEE YOU ***PRESENTLY,*** THEN, DEAR. I'M PUTTING THE KETTLE ON NOW --

CLICK

AND WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THAT PERFECTLY TIMED SENIOR MOMENT THE OLD DEAR'S ***GONE,*** LEAVING ME TO WONDER WHETHER SHE'S GOING SELECTIVELY DEAF OR JUST PLAIN ***MENTAL.***

YEAH... MENTAL LIKE A ***FOX.***

RRR.

I HEAD OFF TOWARDS THE LARGE, MANHATTAN-SHAPED GLACIER FEELING LIKE CHARLTON HESTON MUST'VE FELT IN PLANET OF THE APES.

YOU KNOW: LADY LIBERTY'S HALF-SUBMERGED, THERE'S NO SIGN OF ANY RECOGNIZABLE HUMAN LIFE, AND I HAVE THIS WEIRD FEELING I'M *MISSING* SOMETHING.

IT'S NOT SO MUCH THE SPIDER-SENSE ALERTING ME TO DANGER -- IT'S MORE A SENSE OF GENERAL CAUTION, A NAGGING SUSPICION THAT SOMETHING'S WRONG.

AND THAT'S WHERE IT *HITS* ME -- OR I HIT *IT*, DEPENDING ON HOW YOU LOOK AT THE SITUATION:

WHUP --

BLACK *ICE!*

WHUMP

OW.

WHOOSH

LOOK OUT! HE'S COMING IN AGAIN!

THE DIAMOND STORE

WHERE IS HE? I CAN'T *SEE* 'IM! TOM, CAN YOU SEE 'IM?

UP *THERE!*

BLAM

HEY... HEY, GUYS! I THINK I *WINGED* HIM!

TOM? BILLY?

FELLAS?

UH-OH.

NOT WANTING TO *COMPLAIN* OR ANYTHING, BUT I REALLY *HATE* THIS TIME OF YEAR. IT'S THE SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURES THAT'LL PUT THE *CLAMPS* ON A MAN'S EXTREMITIES.

WELL, *THIS* BLOWS.

I REMEMBER THIS ONE TIME I TRIED WEARING A WOOLEN SPIDER-SUIT -- IT WAS ABOUT AS EFFECTIVE AS AN UNDERWATER FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

THE STUPID THING MADE ME SWEAT LIKE A WRESTLER, AND THEN IT FROZE AND STUCK TO ME. NOWADAYS, I MUST ENDURE THE WRATH OF MOTHER NATURE DRESSED ONLY IN SPANDEX AND A SMILE.

STILL, THERE'S ALWAYS THE CHANCE TO GAIN A FRESH PERSPECTIVE FROM DOWN HERE. AND YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN I MIGHT RUN INTO SOME OF MY ADORING FANS...

HEY, *LOOKIT!* IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

WOW! COOL!

HIYA, KIDS!

UM... STAY IN *SCHOOL.*

SPLAT

LET'S GET'IM!

YEAH!

SO MUCH FOR PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS. AND WHAT'S THE WORLD COMING TO, I ASK YOU, WHEN A VIGILANTE CAN'T PLY HIS TRADE WITHOUT FEAR OF SNOWBALL ASSAULT FROM AMERICA'S YOUTH?

IT'S DOWNRIGHT *ANARCHY*, IS WHAT IT IS. I MEAN, WHO THE HECK'S *RESPONSIBLE* FOR THESE LITTLE BRATS ANYWAY?

OH. *RIGHT.*

SPLAT

SPLAT

SPLAT

HUH... SPIDER-MAN? LOOKS MORE LIKE A BIG *CHICKEN* TO ME! BRR-AWWK!

GET STUFFED, YOU LITTLE PUNK.

AS I CLIMB TO RELATIVE SAFETY, I'M HIT BY THAT FEELING AGAIN -- ONLY IT'S GETTING *STRONGER*. SPIDER-SENSE GOING OFF... SOMETHING SMELLS LIKE A ROTTEN FISH HEAD.

IT'S SOMEWHERE IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY. UP THERE! NO...

...IT'S RIGHT UNDER MY VERY *NOSE!*

YOU!

WHAMMO

UHH --

I SENSE A... ...PATTERN... ...DEVELOPING...!

GAHH!

WHAM

ALWAYS *YOU*, SPIDER-MAN! EVEN ON A GODFORSAKEN DAY SUCH AS THIS, I'M DOGGED BY YOUR INFERNAL INTERFERENCE AT EACH AND EVERY TURN. ONE SINGLE MAN -- THE BANE OF MY EXISTENCE.

WHY IS IT ALWAYS *YOU*?

I DUNNO... BAD *LUCK*?

YOU REPUGNANT INSECT! YOU'VE BEEN *FOLLOWING* ME, HAVEN'T YOU?

YEAH, YOU LEFT A TRAIL OF *SEED.*

THAT'S NOT *FUNNY!*

WHACK

NNN... I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU MAKE FUN OF ME, YOU CLOWN -- NOT EVER AGAIN!

WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO REMOVE YOU FROM THIS PLANET ONCE AND FOR ALL?

WELL, YOU COULD ALWAYS *BORE* ME TO DEATH, VULCH -- THAT TACTIC'S WORKING PRETTY WELL SO FAR.

DON'T CALL ME *VULCH!* I DESPISE THAT NAME!

SMASH

I'LL HAVE TO *REMEMBER* THAT --

-- OWCH.

OKAY, LOOK...THE THING IS, I'M IN KIND OF A HURRY. D'YOU THINK WE COULD SAVE THIS FOR ANOTHER *TIME?* I MEAN, IT'S COLD.

WHAT DO YOU SAY WE GO BACK TO OUR RESPECTIVE HIDEOUTS -- CAGES, WHATEVER --

-- AND COME BACK WHEN IT'S NOT LIKE FIFTY DEGREES BELOW KELVIN?

WHAT? DID YOU CALL ME *KELVIN* NOW? I'LL DESTROY YOU!

WHAM

LOOK, IT'S BEEN A KIND OF UP AN' DOWN DAY. I SWEAR, WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING, I DON'T WANT TO *KNOW* --

=HUFF!=

Y-YOU CAN'T FOOL ME, SPIDER-MAN: YOU KNEW OF MY PLANS FOR THIS JEWEL HEIST RIGHT FROM THE START!

LA LA LA...I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

WELL, YOU WON'T CATCH ME THIS TIME, YOU MASKED MORON!

OH FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE...

THWIP

HA HA! THAT'S IT, SPIDER-MAN -- GIVE IT YOUR ALL, AND THAT WILL *STILL* BE NOT ENOUGH! NOBODY OUTSMARTS THE VULTURE!

"...STILL BE *NOT ENOUGH?*" DUDE, DO THEY TEACH YOU *ENGLISH* IN VILLAIN ACADEMY?

SNAG

I GOT A PIECE OF CHEESE IN MY FRIDGE THAT'S SMARTER THAN YOU!

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME, YOU COSTUMED CRETIN --

-- AWK!

HMM...A NINE-POINT-FIVE I THINK YOU LOST POINTS ON THE *DISMOUNT* THERE, KELVIN.

CLAP CLAP CLAP

ARE YOU...ARE YOU *LAUGHING* AT ME?

YEAH. SAY...YOU THINK YOU COULD DO THAT AGAIN? APPARENTLY, THERE'S A GUY IN MONGOLIA WHO DIDN'T *HEAR* IT --

-- UM... HOLD THAT THOUGHT --

HA! YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DEFY ME, YOU FOOL?

UHH... YEAH, I *SEE* IT...

UWF!

WHACK

AAGH! I'LL *KILL* YOU--!

THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT YOU, VULCH: YOU THINK YOU'RE REALLY *NIFTY*--

THWIP

--BUT YOU'RE REALLY JUST THE BOTTOM OF THE CAGE!

RRIP

MY JEWELS! YOU HIT MY *JEWELS!*

YOU'VE INTERFERED FOR THE LAST TIME, SPIDER-MAN! ALWAYS, YOU STAND IN MY WAY... BUT NO MORE. YOU CAN HAVE YOUR WISH-- WE'LL CONCLUDE THIS *LATER.*

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME--

I'M NOT *FINISHED!* THIRTY MINUTES... THAT'S ALL THE TIME YOU HAVE! IN THIRTY MINUTES, I'M GOING TO *ATOMIZE* YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL.

MEET ME AT THE SITE OF OUR VERY FIRST BATTLE. I DARE YOU TO COME AND FACE ME THERE.

WE END THIS WHERE IT ALL BEGAN-- MAN AGAINST MAN!

AW, *NUTS.*

SO, YOU KNOW... FORTY-FIVE MINUTES LATER, I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE A BIT OF A CHUMP.

I MEAN, MAYBE IT WAS JUST THE CONVINCING WAY HE WAS SHRIEKING AT ME, BUT I REALLY THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO SHOW.

AS IT IS, HE'S FIFTEEN MINUTES LATE. AND I NOW UNDERSTAND HOW AN ESKIMO FEELS WHEN HIS IGLOO FALLS DOWN.

I SHOULD'VE GUESSED THAT FLYING ROGAINE COMMERCIAL DIDN'T HAVE THE STONES TO KEEP HIS WORD...

YOU IDIOT.

OUR FIRST BATTLE WAS AT THE *CHRYSLER* BUILDING.

OH YEAH... RIGHT. SILLY ME.

DIDN'T I KICK YOUR BUTT THAT TIME, TOO?

ALL THESE YEARS, YOU HAVE BEEN A CONSTANT THORN IN MY SIDE. I HAVE HAD GREAT PLANS -- OH, SUCH ***MONUMENTAL*** NOTIONS -- ONLY TO SEE THEM SUFFOCATED BY YOUR INTERFERENCE.

YOU HAVE BECOME TROUBLESOME IN THE EXTREME, SPIDER-MAN. YOUR VALUE AS A COMEDIC SIDEKICK HAS DIMINISHED TO THE POINT OF ZERO RETURN.

CAN'T SAY I AGREE WITH YOU, VULCH. I'M PRETTY ***FUNNY*** --

LET'S SEE YOU DISAGREE WITH ***THIS!***

HEY, NO *FAIR!*

I TOLD YOU IT WOULD END, AND END IT SHALL. I CAN'T DESTROY YOU -- NOT ALONE. BUT I'VE BEEN LETTING PRIDE GET IN THE WAY OF MY AMBITION.

THERE'S NO HONOR IN MY LINE OF WORK, YOU NAÏVE FOOL. NO PROLONGED TORTURE...NO FANCY SCHEMES --

-- JUST A *BULLET* TO THE HEAD AS I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT TO DO THE FIRST TIME I ENCOUNTERED YOU.

GOODBYE *FOREVER,* SPIDER-MAN.

DO I GET A LAST *REQUEST?* FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE?

THIS ISN'T AN *AUSTIN POWERS* MOVIE, YOU DOLT -- THERE *ARE* NO LAST REQUESTS. NOW YOU *DIE.*

HUH. SO MUCH FOR "MAN AGAINST MAN."

I *LIED.*

THAT'S A COINCIDENCE -- SO DID *I.*

WHOOSH

YEEHAW! LOOK, EVERYONE: I'M A STEALTH BOMBER!

RIGHT ON TIME!

HEY, DON'T BLAME ME, KELVIN. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HURT MY FIST WITH YOUR FACE.

-- HMM? WHAT --?

WHACK

SAYONARA, VULTURE! GIVE MY REGARDS TO THE HAIR CLUB!

NO... THE FLAMES...

...I'M LOSING CONTROL!

CURSE YOU, SPIDER-MAN!

CURSE YOU...

...FOREVER...

DUDE, THAT WAS PRETTY *IMPRESSIVE.*

UH-HUH. I LIKE THE WAY HE BURST INTO FLAMES AT THE END LIKE A LITTLE ORANGE METEOR SHOWER.

I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THAT. IT'S 'CAUSE I'M SUCH HOT STUFF.

FLAMER, MORE LIKE.

YOU KNOW ONE OF US IS GOING TO HAVE TO SAVE HIM.

FLIP YOU FOR IT.

SO, TORCH, LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION: WHEN D'YOU THINK HE SAW AUSTIN POWERS?

SO, WITH TEMPERATURES POKING UP INTO THE MINUS THIRTIES, AND AN ADDITIONAL WIND-CHILL FACTOR OF MINUS TWENTY, THAT TAKES US TO MINUS **FIFTY**, FOR THOSE OF YOU SCORING AT HOME!

LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER **SNOW DAY** TOMORROW!

THIS IS SUNSHINE O'TOOLE REPORTING LIVE FROM YOUR NUMBER ONE NEWS AND WEATHER STATION...

SKRRKT

RADIO

YEAH... THAT'S RIGHT, "SUNSHINE" -- HOW D'YOU LIKE ME **NOW?**

AH, WELL... DRIVEWAY'S DONE. THAT'S IT FOR ANOTHER YEAR, I GUESS.

SPLAT

SPLAT

AH HEARD THERE WAS A NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN -- PRETTY HANDY WITH A SHOVEL, THEY SAY.

ONLY AH HEAR HE'S A **CHICKEN.** BR-AWWK

SMACK